

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 2, which was indicated as being allowable by the examiner. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

Newly presented claims 7-11 distinguish applicants' invention patentably over the prior art of record and are likewise believed to be allowable. Claim 7 recites a slip shaft assembly which includes an outer tubular shaft formed with a plurality of V-shaped deformations that extend lengthwise of the shaft and form corresponding sets of adjacent roller track pairs that are arranged at about 90° to one another and separated by an interconnecting bridge against which associated rollers run carried on an elongated inner shaft extending lengthwise within the outer shaft. This structure is neither shown nor suggested in the prior art and thus is believed to be allowable.

It is believed that this application now is in condition for allowance. Further and favorable action is requested.

The Patent Office is authorized to charge or refund any fee deficiency or excess to Deposit Account No. 08-2789.

Respectfully submitted,

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Reply to Office action of February 10, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **Amendment** for U.S. Serial No.: 10/613,337 filed July 3, 2003 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on May 10, 2004.


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